IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION

INCOME TAX REFERENCE NO. 276 OF 1988.

The Commissioner of Income-Tax ... Applicant.

V/s.

M/s.Nashik Dist.Labour Society
Co-op. Federation Ltd., Nashik. ... Respondent.

Parag Vyas i/b. H.D.Rathod
for the applicant-revenue.

P.Y.Vaidya for the respondent.

CORAM : V.C.DAGA AND A.S.AGUIAR, JJ.

DATED : 11th August 2005.

P.C. :

. By this reference under section 256(1) of the Income-tax Act, 1961, the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal has referred the following question of law for the opinion of this Court:

> "Whether, on the facts and in the circumstances of the case, the Tribunal is right in law in holding that the assessee society is entitled to exemption under section 80P(2)(a)(vi) read with proviso to that section?

2. Heard rival parties. Perused reference proceedings.

3. Learned counsel for the respondent-assessee invited our attention to the instructions issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes, New Delhi dated

27th March, 2000; wherein monetary limit for the department for filing reference to the High Court earlier fixed for Rs.50,000/- came to be revised and fresh instructions are issued by the Board to file reference only in cases where tax effect exceeds Rs.2,00,000/-. Learned counsel for the applicant-revenue could not dispute this fact.

4. This Court in the case of **C.I.T. v. Camco Colour Co.**, (2002) 254 ITR 565 ruled that the above instructions are binding on the department.

5. The above instructions dated 27th March, 2000 reflects the policy decision taken by the Board not to raise questions of law where the tax effect is less than the amount prescribed in the instructions with a view to reduce litigations before High Courts and Supreme court. The circular is binding on the Revenue. There is no justification to proceed with the decades old references having negligible tax effect.

6. We, thus, do not think it necessary to answer the reference made to this Court for the assessment year 1980-81. Accordingly, reference stands returned unanswered with no order as to costs.

(A.S.AGUIAR, J.) **(V.C.DAGA, J.)**